

THE ADVOCATE.

MERIDEN

KAN.

S. McLellan Editor
J. P. Limeburner Associate Ed.
F. N. Newhouse, Business Manager.

Officers Kansas State Alliance.

President—H. H. CLOYER.....Cambridge.
Vice-Pres.—W. H. BIDDLE.....Angus.
Secretary—J. B. FRENCH.....Burton.
Treasurer—H. BAUGH....."
Chaplin—J. P. WATT.....Patterson.
Lecturer—A. E. DICKINSON.....Meriden.
Asst. Lecturer—VAN B. PRATHER.....Newhart.
Doorkeeper—JETHRO COCHRAN.....Winfield.
Asst. Doorkeeper—A. W. TAYLOR.....Newton.
Sgt.-at-arms—L. K. HOYT.....Dexter.
Business Agt.—C. A. TYLER.....Burton.

Do You?

Want to keep fully posted on Alliance matters?
Do you want the Alliance to succeed and contribute to its success?

Do you want to read a bold and fearless discussion of your heaven-born rights as tillers of the soil.

Do you want encouragement in the fight you are making against the oppressors of your rights and privileges?

Do you want a true and stalwart friend for the cause?

If you do take the ADVOCATE, read and ponder over its contents and let us hear from you when you have anything to say to advance the interests of the Alliance. Help us, and we will help you.

American Aristocracy vs. American Commonalty.

There is no fact more apparent at the present time, even to the most casual observer, than the separation of the American people into two distinct and conflicting elements,—the non-producing aristocracy of wealth and the great industrial classes. The line of demarkation between the two great classes has been constantly widening and becoming more distinct during the past thirty years. Many of the conditions that have favored this division grew out of the governmental complications incident to the war for the preservation of the Union; and the advantages gained by the wealthy classes at that time, and under those trying circumstances have been strengthened by subsequent legislation, and by the cumulative power of early and repeated successes. These are the conditions foreseen by Abraham Lincoln and pointed out by him as portending greater dangers to the Republic than any that had previously threatened its existence. This is his prophetic warning to his countrymen:

"Yes we may all congratulate ourselves that this cruel war is nearing its close. It cost a vast amount of blood and treasure. The best blood of the flower of American youth has been freely offered upon our country's altar that the nation might live. It has indeed been a trying hour for the Republic. But I see in the future a crisis approaching that unnerves me and causes me to tremble for the safety of my country. As a result of the war corporations have been enthroned, and an era of corruption in high places will follow, and the money power of the country will endeavor to prolong its reign by working upon the prejudices of the people until all the wealth is aggregated in few hands and the Republic is destroyed. God grant that my fears may prove groundless."

Could anything short of prophetic vision have more clearly indicated the conditions that have prevailed since the eventful days when this warning was uttered? "The money power will endeavor to prolong its reign by working upon the prejudices of the people until all the wealth is aggregated in few hands and the Republic is destroyed." What has been the policy of this power? Every man of sufficient age remembers the universal prosperity of all industries at

the close of the war, and for several years thereafter. Labor commanded remunerative prices; the furnaces, the forges, the factories were all employed; agricultural industries were all prosperous, everybody had money, and the people as a rule were free from debt. Hardly had the roar of artillery and the rattle of musketry ceased, and the groans of the wounded and dying been hushed ere the predicted effort began. It was inaugurated under the beguiling title of measures "for strengthening the public credit." The currency which had given unprecedented prosperity to every department of industry and trade was gradually withdrawn. The government bonds which had been bought with this currency during the war at a large discount and which by the terms of their issue were redeemable in the same currency were by the credit strengthening (?) act of 1869, made payable in gold. A policy of uninterrupted contraction has been pursued from that day to the present time until the volume in circulation has been reduced from \$50 per capita in 1864 to about \$7 in 1869. During all this time bondholders and bankers have been constantly accumulating wealth, and the agricultural and laboring classes have been as constantly sinking into more profound depths of poverty and degradation. The policy by which these results have been brought about has been repeatedly ratified by appeals to the people at the polls. "The money power is prolonging its reign by working upon the prejudices of the people." While the money of the country is being "aggregated in the hands of the few," the lands of the country are also gradually passing out of the hands of the people and into the hands of foreign and domestic capitalists and syndicates.

W. S. Morgan in his invaluable book shows that of the five millions of farms in the United States 1,280,000 of them are rented; and that 25 per cent of the rentals has occurred since 1880. He also shows that "the farmers of the United States received \$48,000,000 less for raising 76,000,000 acres of corn in 1886 than they did for raising 68,000,000 in 1883, though the former exceeded the latter by 116,000,000 bushels. In 1884 there were sown 1,000,000 acres more oats than in 1883 and 12,000,000 more bushels raised, but to the farmers \$26,000,000 less was realized. In all other products of the soil the same general results are obtained each year—increased acreage and a decrease in the amount realized per bushel or per acre."

Mr. Morgan further shows from the report of Chas. S. Mills secretary and statistician of the Illinois State board of agriculture that the corn crop of Illinois for the years 1882 to 1886 inclusive was produced at an actual aggregate loss of \$52,377,528. Is it surprising that under such conditions homes are mortgaged—that these mortgages are foreclosed and that men become renters of the land they once owned? This is indeed the purpose of the capitalists who are to-day controlling the legislation and working out the destiny of this country. They are prolonging and providing for a perpetual continuance of their reign "by working upon the

prejudices of the people." A powerfully subsidized press is aiding in the consummation of this purpose. We are again indebted to Mr. Morgan for the following quotations in proof of this proposition. The New York Times of August 12th 1887 speaking of the changed conditions of the people of this country says:

"There seems to be but one remedy and that must come, a change of ownership of the soil; that is: tenant farmers on the one hand and landlords on the other, like that which has long existed in Europe and in our own State of California. Everything seems ripe for the change; half the farms in the country are ready to be sold if the buyers would only appear."

Senator Sharon says:

"We need a stronger government; the wealth of the country has to bear the burdens of government and shall control it."

The Indianapolis Daily Journal said:

"There is too much freedom in the country rather than too little."

The Daily News of the same city said:

"If the working men had no vote they would be more amenable to the teachings of hard times."

The Richmond (Va.) State said:

"The most wealthy must govern in every State, and will, regardless of any attempt to deprive them of that right."

The New York World says:

"The American laborer must make up his mind henceforth not to be so much better off than the European laborer. Men must be contented to work for less wages. In this way the workingman will be nearer to that station in life to which it has pleased God to call him."

Was ever hellish plot more ingeniously conceived or more assiduously and successfully prosecuted than this of the minions of mammon to subdue and enslave a free and enlightened people? The Indianapolis Daily News says: "If the workingmen had no vote they would be more amenable to the teachings of hard times." It were as well for them if they had no vote unless they can emancipate themselves from the slavery of party and learn to use the franchise for the overthrow of the powers that are forging chains for their perpetual enslavement. "The rich are growing richer and the poor are growing poorer" year by year. The cause of this is apparent to the people. They see it in the iniquitous class legislation which has made one currency for the people and another for the bondholder; and which has contracted the circulating medium until values of property have depreciated to almost inconceivable amounts. Yet at each political campaign the old parties come forward with renewed pledges of relief, they present the tariff or some other insignificant question as the great issue to be settled, because with this they can cover up and smother for the time being the real questions of paramount importance to the people, and amid the din and confusion and excitement of the campaign the people rally to their support, the one triumphs over the other and every-

thing goes on as before. "The money power is prolonging its reign by working upon the prejudices of the people." How long will it be ere we are ready to seize the power which we possess in the ballot and dethrone the minions of wealth that have been for thirty years forging our chains?

The Greatest Book of the Age.

During the past week we have been reading W. S. Morgan's book—"History of the Wheel and Alliance and the Impending Revolution" and the favorable impression obtained of its value by a cursory glance at its pages, is fully confirmed by a careful reading. The author is a man eminently qualified for a work of this character. With a heart overflowing with sympathy for the oppressed and with a keen perception of the selfish motives which influence men in business affairs, he has presented a vivid picture of "Labor's wrongs" from real life in this boasted land of liberty and christian civilization, which is not calculated to give an exalted view of the humanity or the philanthropy of the employers of labor. The man or woman whose blood does not boil with indignation from a perusal of this part of the work must have something radically deficient in their original make up.

Three hundred and thirty-three pages are devoted to the history proper of the Wheel and Alliance and to brief biographical sketches of prominent men connected with the two Orders. This is interspersed with much interesting general historical and statistical matter of great value in the study of the economic questions which are now receiving so much attention and study by the masses of the people.

"Book Second" however, we regard as the most important part of the work. As we remarked last week the title hardly conveys an idea of the contents especially of this part of the work. The history of the financial legislation of the past thirty years is presented to the reader as it was never presented before; not in the language of the enthusiast or the extremist, but in the calm dispassionate language of the historian and the philosopher; and the author fortifies every proposition laid down by an array of facts that render his positions absolutely impregnable. The causes of the present depression of every American industry are clearly presented and the only available common sense remedy prescribed.

The book is written in a clear argumentative style, is exceptionally logical, and its conclusions are absolutely invincible. It is destined to revolutionize the sentiment of the masses of the people if they can be induced to read it. And why should they not? It relates entirely to those things which concern the material interests of the people as distinguished from the interests of the money power which is seeking their perpetual enslavement. It is the greatest educator of the age. It is a book of 774 pages printed in large clear type on good paper, with a substantial and attractive binding. It is worth its weight in gold to every farmer and laborer in the land. Price \$2.25. Agents wanted to introduce it to the people. Address or inquire at this office.